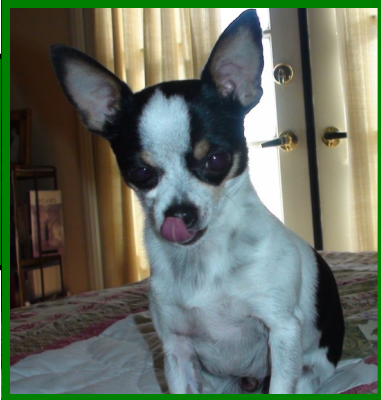


# Merry Christmas from the Cowps 2010



**J**oy fills our hearts as we count our many blessings, including all of you!

We wish you a very Merry Christmas and all the best for 2011. This picture is our 8 year old son Pete, who sits here as I type. Last year we sent a picture of Pete and Mark dressed up in Santa gear, but we are not going to humiliate either parties this time.

The year flew by fast as we continued our work on staff at the Gathering Place Church, speaking at other churches and our local community work. Shell finished her work of teaching parenting classes in the community with Jewish Family Service (JFS is a social service agency) in June. It was a wonderful 4 years that was funded by a grant that is now ended. Shell continues her work in the community in another program at this time. Supporting families continues to be her passion.

**E**njoyable time with friends and family this year as we both travelled to Canada. Mark officiated at a formal renewal of wedding vows for long time friends of the family. They celebrated 60 years. They even had a few of the original bridesmaids walk down the aisle. We had great visits with family and friends. Back in San Diego, Mark and his friend Jim continued their Saturday sailing trips and started invit-

ing men from the church to go with them. They named the group "men of the sea." That group expanded as they also started going to the shooting range and then coming back to the house for BBQ's with

**Check out the outreach  
we are working with in  
Liberia:**

<http://provisionofhope.com>

[Mark.cowpersmith.org](http://Mark.cowpersmith.org)

[Shell.cowpersmith.org](http://Shell.cowpersmith.org)



We are so thankful to our Savior, Jesus, who has blessed us with opportunities to love others and help where we can. We never know exactly what tomorrow holds, but we know Who holds tomorrow and we follow His lead.

**Loving California living!**

the wives. So the club was renamed "Bullets, Boats and Babes."

**S**uch wonderful weather here and we love our walks, community swimming pool and our back yard garden. Mark planted grapes a few years ago and they are doing very well. We do know we are spoiled and we do not forget the long winters many of our friends are in right now.

**U**nity among the churches in our region has also been a high-

light and we have seen the expansion of our outreach with food and prayer to the single moms and their families. [Click here to see web-page.](#) Mark is also on the board as a teacher of a monthly school that several churches participate in. We have had people travel from various states to attend the sessions.

**S**undays are always full days where we are either traveling to teach at another church or at our own church [www.gatheringplacechurch.org](http://www.gatheringplacechurch.org).

You can download Mark's sermons from the church website. He is teaching his series on the Life of Christ.

So at this holiday season, we send you our love as we continue to pray for you and your family.

With joy and thankfulness,  
Mark, Shell and Pete



**Best wishes to all for a great year - 2011**

**Luke 2:9**

*An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. 10But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. 11Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord.*